AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claims 1-20 (Canceled).

21. (Currently Amended) A ~~rapidly disintegrating~~ tablet adapted~~similar to those designed~~ to disintegrate in the mouth on contact with saliva in less than 30 seconds~~,~~ forming and form a ~~an easy to swallow~~ suspension, said tablet obtained by direct compression ~~of~~ and comprising a dry mixture of coated microcrystals or microgranules of an active substance and excipients including at least one disintegrating agent, a soluble agent and a lubricating agent, wherein: (a) the lubricating agent is in powder form; (b) more than half of the lubricating agent ~~and the greater part or the totality of it~~ is distributed on the tablet surface; (c) ~~and its~~the tablet has a friability~~, is~~ of less than 1 %~~, whereby said tablet can be packaged by standard processes and has the required and adequate hardness to enable it to be removed with ease from the blister pack in which it is packed, by perforating the seal thereof by pushing the tablet, with a substantially reduced risk of the tablet breaking during removal~~.

22. (Currently Amended) Tablet in accordance with Claim 21, wherein ~~its~~ a largest dimension of the tablet is greater than 5 mm.

23. (Currently Amended) Tablet in accordance with Claim 21, wherein the lubricating agent is ~~selected from the~~ a pharmaceutically acceptable lubricating agent~~s which have~~ having a melting point of at least 35°C.

24. (Currently Amended) Tablet in accordance with Claim 21, wherein the lubricating agent is a member selected from the group ~~including~~ consisting of magnesium stearate, sodium stearyl fumarate, stearic acid and micronized polyoxyethylene glycol.

25. (Previously Presented) Tablet in accordance with Claim 21, wherein the lubricating agent is magnesium stearate.

26. (Currently Amended) Tablet in accordance with Claim~~claim~~ 21, wherein ~~the~~ a quantity of lubricating agent is in a~~the~~ range 0.2 to 10 parts per 1000 based on a ~~(~~weight of lubricating agent per~~/~~ total weight of the tablet~~)~~.

27. (Currently Amended) Tablet in accordance with ~~one of~~ Claim 21, wherein the lubricating agent has a particle size distribution ~~which is~~ less than 30 microns, such that ~~its~~ constituent particles of the lubricating agent adhere to a surface when the lubricating agent~~it~~ is sprayed against a~~the~~ surface.

28. (Currently Amended) Tablet in accordance with Claim 21, wherein the disintegrating agent is a member selected from the group ~~including~~ consisting of cross-linked sodium carboxymethylcellulose~~, known in the industry as croscarmellose~~, crospovidone and their mixtures.

29. (Currently Amended) Tablet in accordance with Claim 21, wherein the ~~mixture of~~ excipients ~~may~~ include a permeabilising agent, a solubilising agent, sweeteners, flavors and colorings.

30. (Currently Amended) Tablet in accordance with Claim 21, wherein the tablet is adapted to withstand being~~it is designed to be~~ packaged in and delivered from blisters composed entirely of aluminum, said blisters optionally including~~which may in addition include~~ a cover of a plastic material which is to be torn off before opening.

31. (Currently Amended) Process for the production of a tablet in accordance with Claim 21, wherein the process comprises~~involves~~ the following ~~sequence of~~ steps:

- choosing, firstly, an active substance in a~~the~~ form of coated microcrystals or microgranules, and secondly, a set of excipients including a disintegrating agent, a soluble agent, and also a lubricating agent;

- dry mixing the active substance and the excipients to form a mixture, provided that more than half of the lubricating agent is not included in the mixture ~~with the exception of the greater part or the totality of the lubricating agent~~;

- applying more than half of the lubricating agent onto walls surrounding a cavity of a compression device;

- feeding a quantity of the~~this~~ mixture necessary to form a tablet into the cavity of ~~a~~ the compression device within which the mixture is to be compressed and onto the walls of which more than half of the ~~necessary quantity of~~ lubricating agent has been applied in advance;
- compressing the mixture and ejecting the tablet formed.

32. (Currently Amended) Process in accordance with Claim 31, wherein ~~the~~ compression forces are in a compression force~~the~~ range from 3 kN to 50 kN.

33. (Currently Amended) Tablet according to Claim~~claim~~ 21, wherein the~~its~~ friability of the tablet is less than 0.5%.

34. (Currently Amended) Tablet in accordance with Claim 22, wherein the~~its~~ largest dimension of the tablet is greater than 17 mm.

35. (Currently Amended) Tablet in accordance with Claim~~claim~~ 23, wherein the lubricating agent ~~is selected from the pharmaceutically acceptable lubricating agents which have~~has a melting point higher than 50°C.

36. (Currently Amended) Tablet in accordance with Claim~~to claim~~ 26, wherein the quantity of lubricating agent is in the range of 3 to 6 parts per 1000 ~~(weight of lubricating agent / total weight of tablet)~~.

37. (Currently Amended) Tablet in accordance with Claim~~claim~~ 27, wherein the lubricating agent has a particle size distribution less than 10 microns.

38. (Currently Amended) Process in accordance with Claim 32, wherein the compression forces range is ~~are in the range~~ 4 kN to 40 kN.

39. (Currently Amended) Process in accordance with Claim 38, wherein the compression forces range is ~~are in the range~~ 5 kN to 25 kN.

40. (New) Process in accordance with Claim 31, wherein none of the lubricating agent is dry mixed with the active substance and other excipients to form a mixture, and all of the lubricating agent is applied onto the walls surrounding the cavity of the compression device, such that all of the lubricating agent of the tablet is distributed on an outer surface of the tablet.

41. (New) Tablet in accordance with Claim 21, wherein all of the lubricating agent of the tablet is distributed on an outer surface of the tablet.